



Element 1
Powering Innovation

Element 1 Corp (e1)

Methanol to H₂ Supply Systems (MHSS)

- Fuel Cell Mobility -

Robert Schluter, President
CaFCP Working Group Meeting
31 July 2019



Scalable.
Reliable.
Affordable.

www.e1na.com



Introduction

- e1 is a developer of Methanol to H₂ Supply System (MHSS) products and technology
- CaFCP's Stated Goals:
 - Replace gasoline and diesel with clean H₂
 - Accelerate market adoption of consumer FCEV
 - Realistic H₂ solution for HD FCEV
 - Have California lead the way to volume commercialization of fuel cell transportation, enabling market adoption of fuel cell solutions globally

e1's MHSS Technology Accelerates the Adoption of Fuel Cell Solutions Globally





Element 1 Corp

Background

Scalable, Reliable, and Affordable H₂ Generation

- e1 is a leading developer of small-scale advanced methanol to H₂ supply systems supporting the fuel cell industry
- e1 collaborates with its strategic licensing partners to produce state-of-the-art H₂ generation systems used in clean energy solutions
- e1 technology is licensed to partners to address a wide range of products, markets, and applications
- e1 offers solutions for:
 - On-site H₂ generation (fuel cell power, H₂ refueling stations)
 - Mobile (on-board) H₂ generation (fuel cell electric HD trucks, trains, and marine vessels)



Founded in 2010 in Bend, Oregon

[Element 1 Corp Introduction Video](#) (Hyperlink)



e1 Business Model

Customer Profile

- Develop H₂ technology
- Assemble and provide sample (demonstration) products for evaluation by partner companies
- Licensing business model to get product to market worldwide (**not** a commercial manufacturer of H₂ generators)
- License partners manufacture e1 H₂ generator products and provide the sales channel to defined markets
- **e1's Customer Profile:**
 - Fuel cell technology developers
 - Fuel cell system integrators
 - Market leading OEM's who want to acquire fuel cell related technology to maintain or grow market share

e1 H₂ Generators have been integrated with PEMFC's by:





Solving “The H₂ Challenge”

The Case for Methanol to H₂ Supply Systems (MHSS)

- Fuel cell solutions are being commercialized in the transportation industry
- Fuel cell systems require new H₂ solutions to “Crack the H₂ Challenge”
- Lowering H₂’s total cost per kilogram at the point of use is key to driving adoption of fuel cell power solutions
 - Compressed H₂ is >\$8 kg, and can approach \$16 kg in key markets **slowing** adoption of fuel cell vehicles
- Compressed H₂ occupies **too much** volume to be practical for HD transportation (Trucks, Trains, and Marine Vessels)
 - Limited space is available for H₂ storage which **reduces range**

e1’s H₂ supply technology Solves “The H₂ Challenge”





Methanol

Overcomes Energy Storage Limitations

A high-volume commodity liquid hydrocarbon fuel (methanol) allows for:

- High-energy fuel density
- Low-cost of fuel (with the right technology)
- Low-cost of liquid fuel storage
- Low-carbon fuel, with a renewable future – Just like H₂ and RNG
- Reduces Safety Risk – No onboard HP H₂ storage required
- Fueling stations wherever fueling exists today

Requires e1 MHSS technology to unlock the H₂ in methanol



Distributed H₂ Generation Solutions

Three H₂ Generator Options

Definition: A completely self-contained machine that converts feedstock to purified H₂

- **Electrolyzer** (water split by electricity into H₂ and oxygen)
 - Requires MW scale power that may not be available
 - **High CapEx and OpEx**, limiting deployment
- **Natural gas reformer** (methane plus water reacted to make H₂)
 - Requires NG pipeline infrastructure, eliminating remote and mobile solutions
 - **High CapEx**. High temperature reforming requires special allows, expensive NG conditioning and compression, complex controls, PSA. **All limiting deployment**
- **Methanol Reformer** (methanol plus water reacted to make H₂) (**MHSS**)
 - **Lowest** CapEx due to low temperature reforming, e1 purifier
 - **Lowest TCO**, MHSS cost of produced H₂ about US\$3 to US\$4/kg
 - **No Supporting** infrastructure required for **Onboard the vehicle MHSS**

e1's MHSS products have the lowest CapEx, and produces the lowest total cost of H₂



e1 H₂ Generator (MHSS) Products

Common Attributes of e1's MHSS technology

- e1 offers three MHSS product lines that operate on a methanol-water mix
- e1 models provide H₂ production flow rates from 2 kg/d to 500 kg/d, all producing fuel cell grade H₂
- e1 H₂ generators are modular and highly scalable while maintaining their breakthrough economics
- **Common attributes:** Very Low CapEx, Very Low OpEx, Lowest TCO H₂ kg/d, Compact Design, Low Noise, Low Maintenance, and No SO_x, No SO_x, or PM

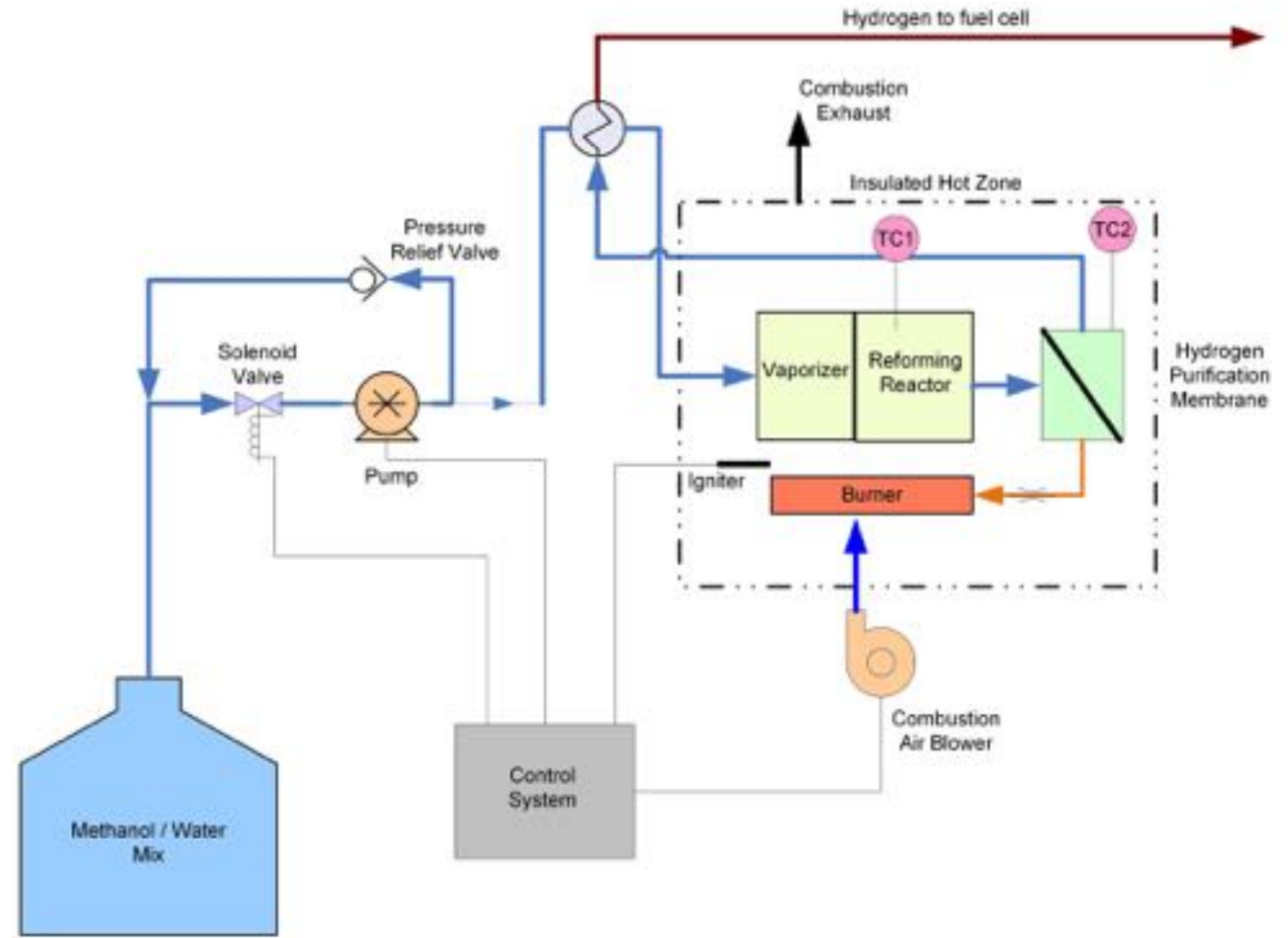
e1 MHSS products have been integrated with PEMFC's by:





Key Features

- Two input streams (methanol/water mix and combustion air)
- Two output streams (product H_2 and combustion exhaust)
- Thermally integrated (only one control point required)
- Redundant ignition sources
- Starts producing H_2 within seconds (from hot standby)
- Simple, inexpensive to manufacture
- Compact, simple to operate and control





e1 H₂ Membrane Purifier

Patented Proprietary H₂ Purification

Overview

- e1's membrane purifier was designed to displace expensive micro-PSA H₂ purifiers
- **Operation:** Passive process works by pressure differential
- **Product H₂:** >99.97% (typically 99.99%) with <0.2 ppm CO and <0.2 ppm CO₂
- **Target uses:** H₂ generators, industrial H₂ applications, chemical processes

Key Advantages

- **High Quality:** Produces fuel-cell-grade H₂
- **Lowest initial cost of equipment**
- **Quiet and simple operation:** No moving parts
- **Scalable:** 5 purifiers in an M40, 10 purifiers in M80
- **High reliability and long lifetime:** engineered for > 20,000 hours operation
- **Easy integration:** no valves, absorbents, or complicated controls

Developed over 30 years, e1's membrane purifier is the Key to low cost H₂ purification



Purification module array

Section Break



L-Series MHSS
for
H₂ Refueling Stations



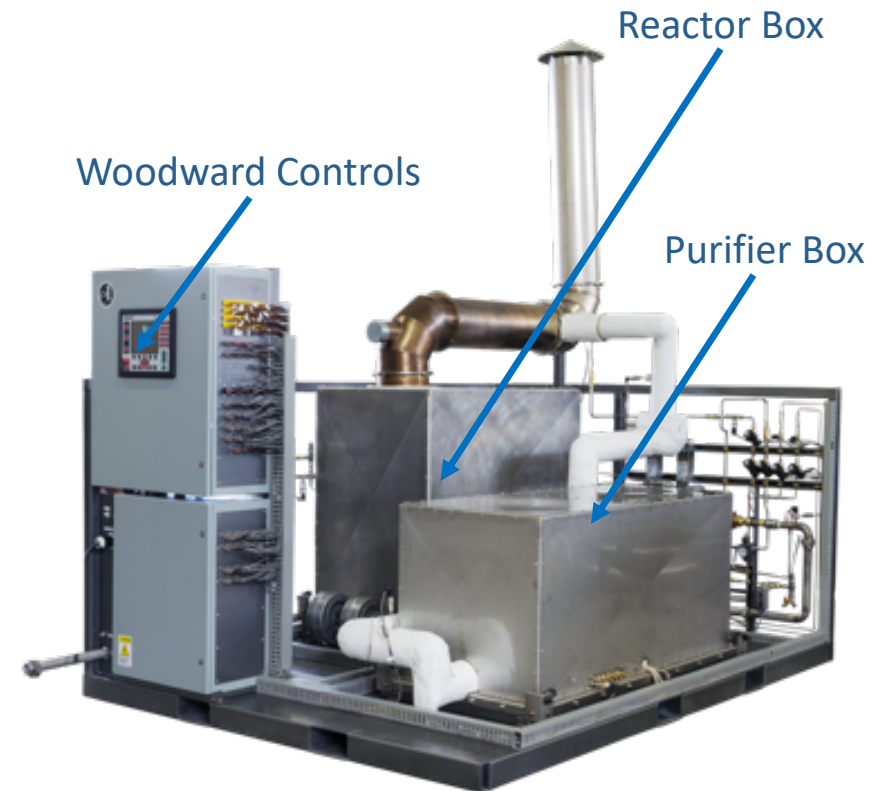
L-Series MHSS

Overview

Designed to displace compressed or liquid H₂ to support H₂ fueling and stationary power

- **H₂ Production:** Can scale to produce 50 kg/d to 500 kg/d
- **Woodward Controls:** World-class controls for reliable operation
- **Power Required:** ≤ 6 kW per 500 kg/d of H₂ produced
- **Feedstock:** Methanol and DI water
 - 6.3 kg methanol/water mix water yields 1.0 kg pure H₂
- Displaces expensive H₂ produced offsite
- Competing electrolyzer solutions are expensive and have large electricity requirements that may not be available
- L-Series H₂ generator targets **HRS** and large stationary fuel cell power solutions

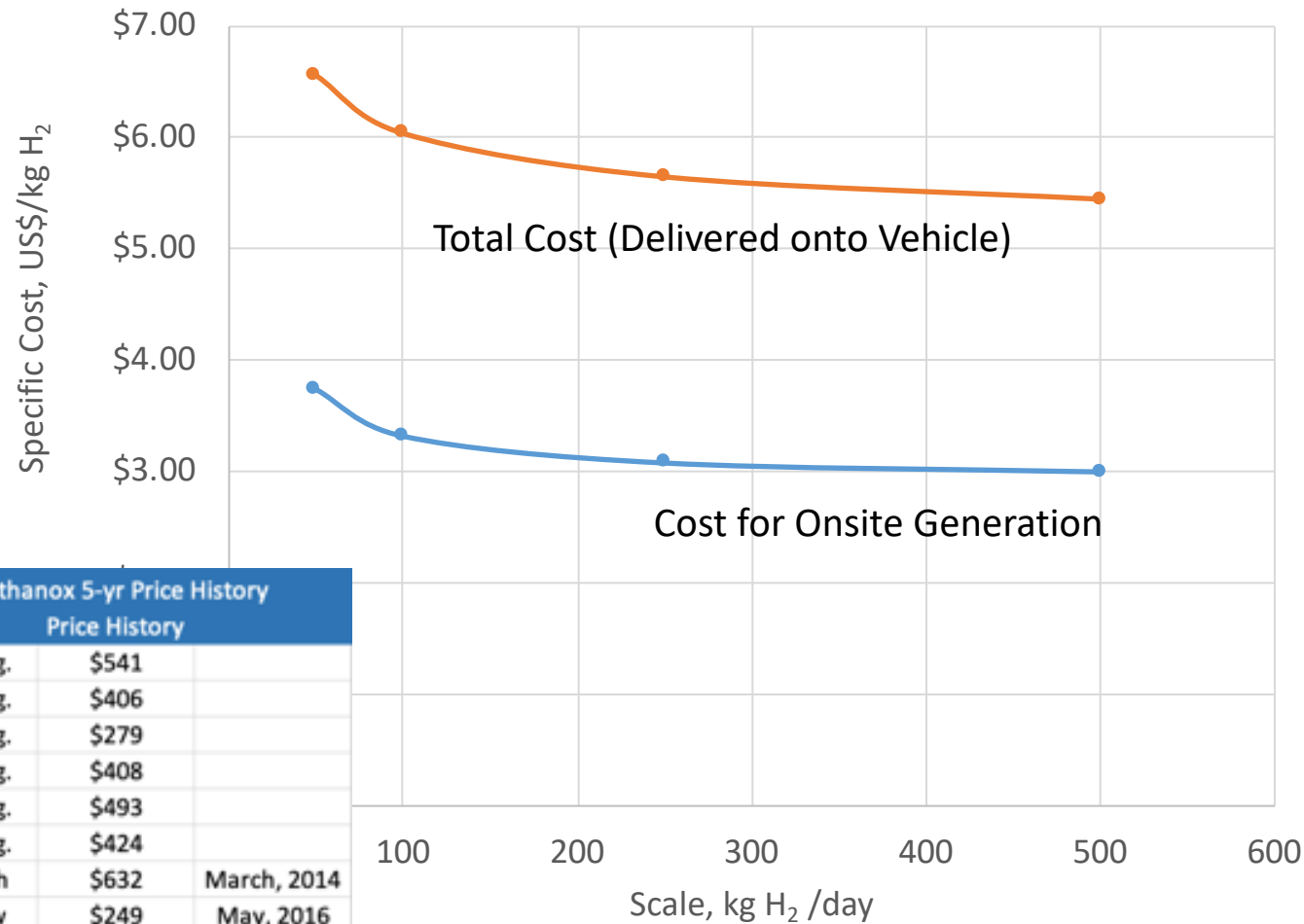
The L-Series MHSS Provides the Lowest Total Cost of H₂ for HRS





Total Cost of H₂, US\$/kg

An Affordable Solution for Onsite H₂ Fueling



Methanox 5-yr Price History		
Price History		
2014 Avg.	\$541	
2015 Avg.	\$406	
2016 Avg.	\$279	
2017 Avg.	\$408	
2018 Avg.	\$493	
2019 Avg.	\$424	
5-yr High	\$632	March, 2014
5-Yr Low	\$249	May, 2016
5-yr Avg	\$408	

L-Series H₂ Generator

→ Total cost for H₂ delivered onto vehicle includes:

- L-Series H₂ Generator costs (below), *plus*
- Amortization of CapEx for H₂ compressor
- Amortization of CapEx for H₂ storage and dispensing
- Electricity for compression
- Maintenance

→ Cost for onsite generation includes:

- Amortization of CapEx for the L-Series H₂ Generator (5-year depreciation)
- Cost of methanol feedstock (Methanex 5-yr Avg. US\$408/ton)
- Maintenance



L-Series Provides Significant Cost Reduction

40%+ Reduction on the Cost of H₂

US\$/kg

Cost of H₂ at Site

Compression, storage, and dispensing are common for all solutions

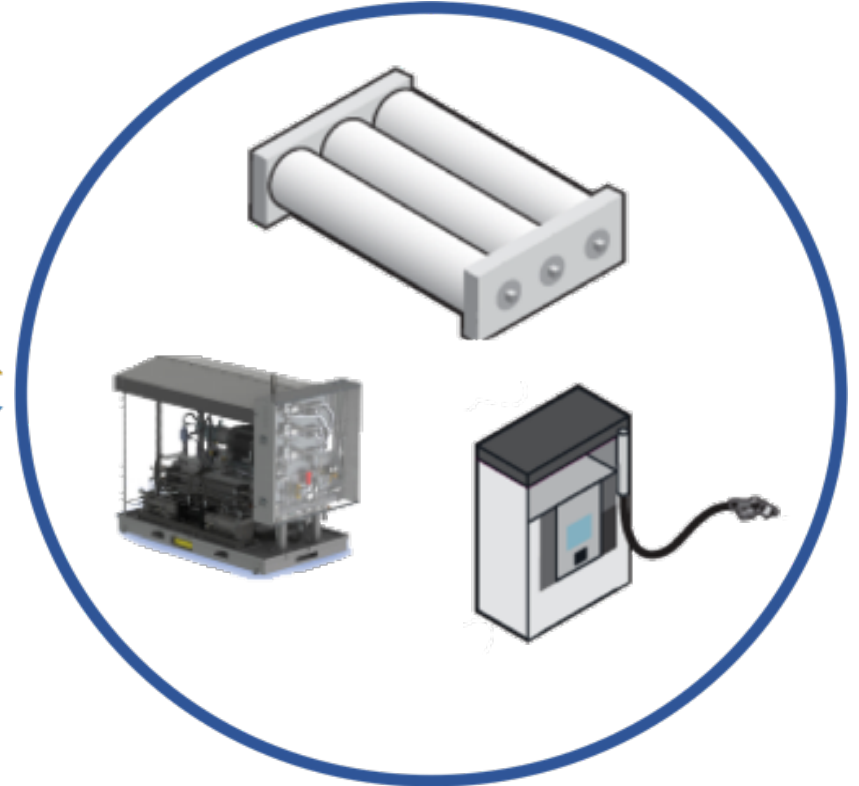
US\$8 to
\$12/kg

H₂
Gas

US\$5 to
\$8/kg

Electrolysis

US\$3 to
\$4/kg





L-Series Compared to Electrolyzer

e1 L-Series

- **Pure H₂ produced from methanol & water**
 - 6.3 kg methanol yields 1.0 kg pure H₂
 - At US\$408/ton methanol → 6.3 kg methanol costs US\$2.57
 - Minimal maintenance cost
- **CapEx is less than 35% to 50% that of electrolyzers**
 - In commercialization, CapEx is estimated to be:
 - \$100,000 to \$150,000 for 100 kg H₂/day
 - \$250,000 to \$300,000 for 300 kg H₂/day
- **If renewable methanol is used, zero net CO₂ emissions**

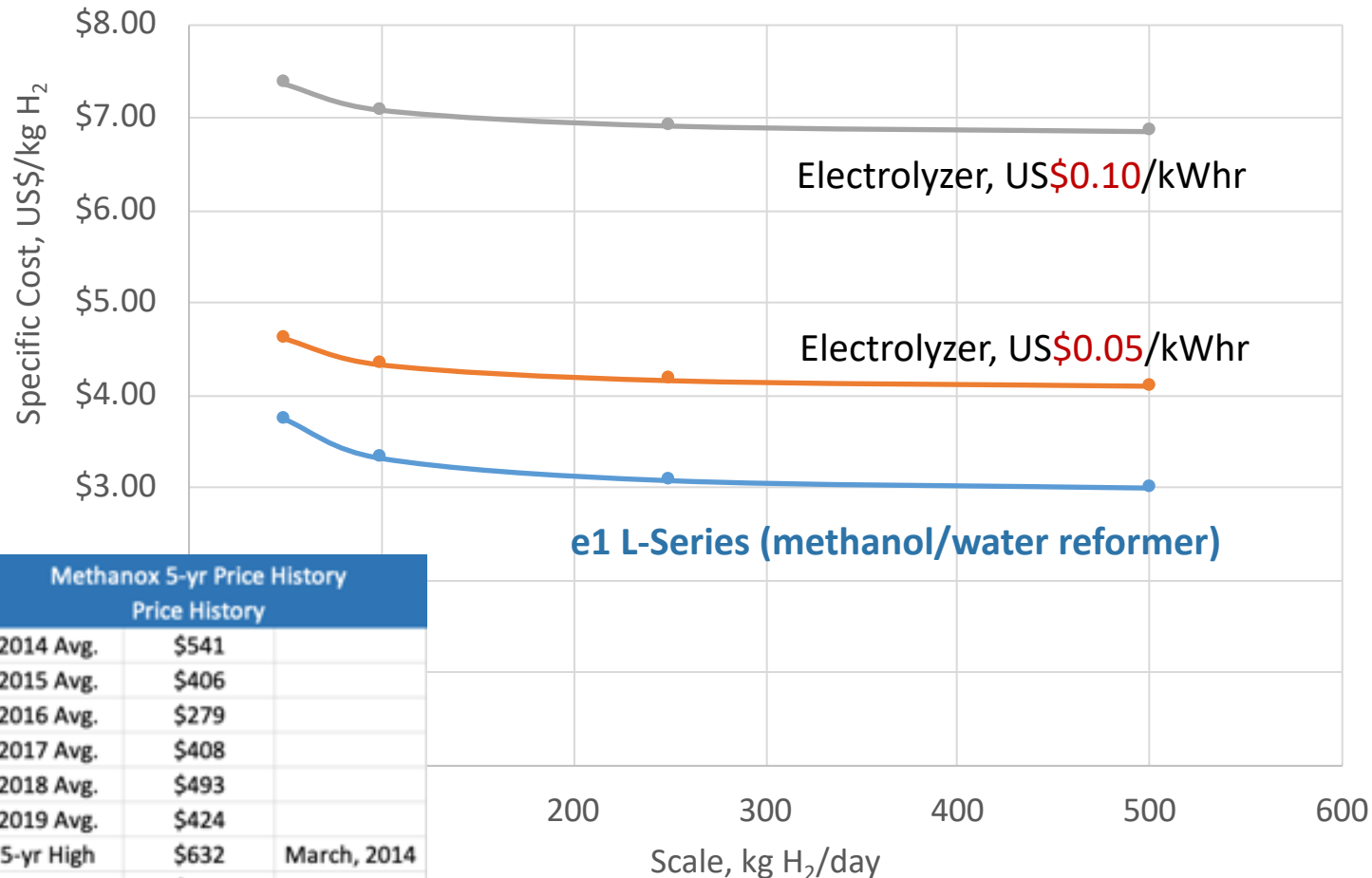
Electrolyzer

- **Pure H₂ produced from electricity & water**
 - 55 kWhr electricity yields 1.0 kg pure H₂
 - At US\$0.10/kWhr → 55 kWhr costs US\$5.50
 - At US\$0.05/kWhr → 55 kWhr costs US\$2.75
 - Significant maintenance cost to deliver high-purity water to the electrolyzer
- **High CapEx**
 - Approx. \$560,000 to \$750,000 for 100 kg H₂/day
 - Approx. \$950,000 to \$1,400,000 for 300 kg H₂/day
- **If renewable electricity is used, zero net CO₂ emissions**



Cost of H₂

L-Series compared to Water Electrolyzer



Cost of making H₂ onsite

(excludes cost of compression, high-pressure storage, and dispensing)

→ **L-Series H₂ Generator costs include:**

- Amortization of CapEx for the L-Series H₂ generator (5-year depreciation)
- Cost of methanol feedstock (US\$408/ton)
- Maintenance

→ **Water Electrolyzer costs include:**

- Amortization of CapEx for the water electrolyzer (5-year depreciation)
- Cost of electricity (see graph)
- No cost included for maintenance and for water purification

Section Break

M-Series MHSS
Onboard Mobile Solution
for
HD Vehicles, Rail, Marine Vessels

TM



Break-through Solution for HD Fuel Cell Vehicles

Onboard Methanol to H₂ Supply System (MHSS)

Problem

- Heavy-duty fuel-cell vehicles cannot store enough compressed H₂ to achieve target distance between fueling
- H₂ fueling infrastructure is lacking, expensive to build
- High-pressure compressed H₂ presents safety risk, and limits vehicle routes in some jurisdictions

Solution

- Convert methanol/water mix to high-purity H₂ onboard heavy-duty vehicles





M-Series MHSS

On-Board H₂ Generation for *HD Transportation*

Designed to displace compressed H₂ to support mobile fuel cell propulsion solutions

- **Mature Technology:** Developed over 20+ years, multiple product lines
- **H₂ Production:** Can scale to support 30 kW to 300 kW fuel cell solutions
- **H₂ Purity:** >99.97% with <0.2 ppm CO and <0.2 ppm CO₂
- **Vibration Resistant:** Designed for transportation applications
- **Operation:** Designed for cyclic and variable operation
- **Feedstock:** Methanol and DI water
 - 6.3 kg methanol/ mix water yields 1.0 kg pure H₂
- **Lifetime:** Designed for greater than 20,000 hour lifetime (H₂ production)
- **Manufacturing:** Under e1 manufacturing license



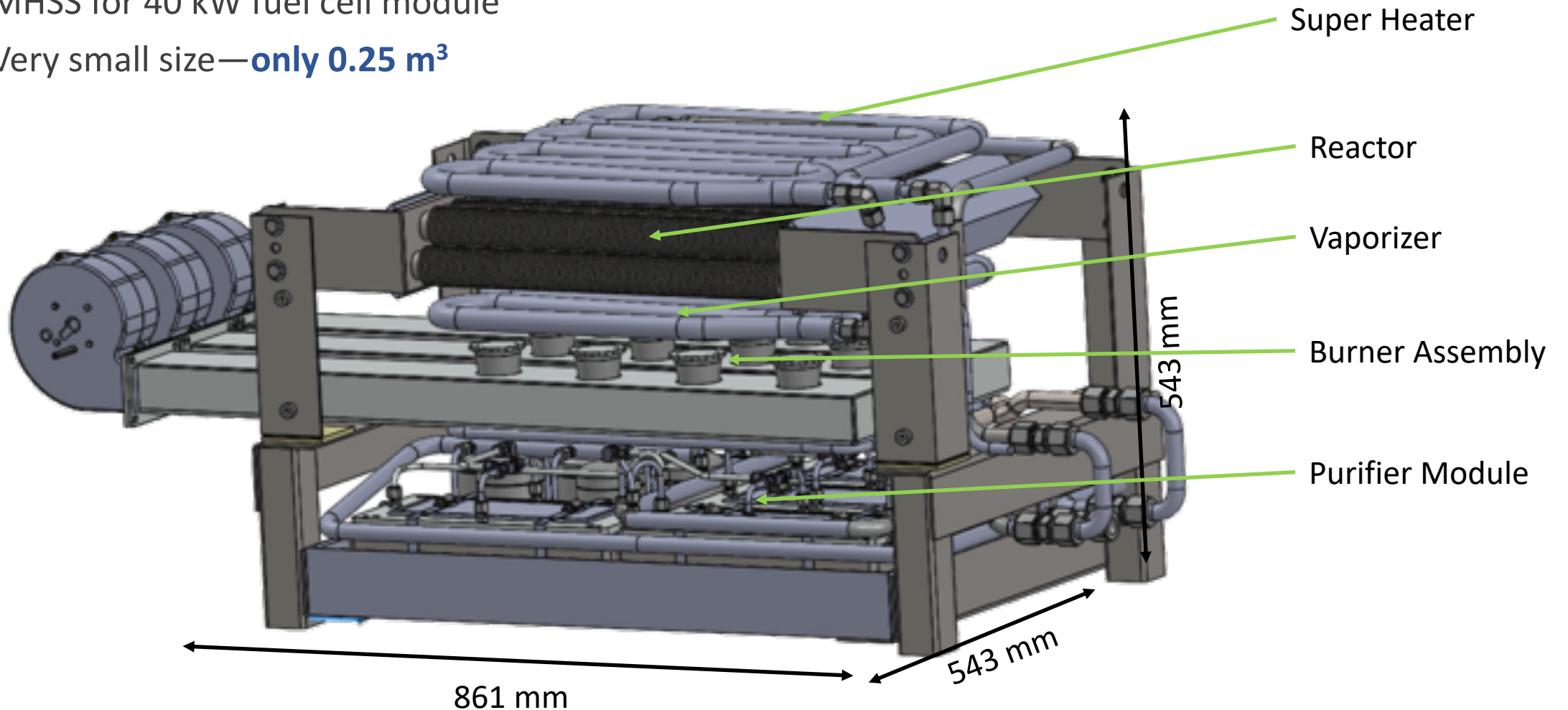
Scalable.
Reliable.
Affordable.



MHSS – M40

Preliminary 3D Models

- MHSS for 40 kW fuel cell module
- Very small size—**only 0.25 m³**

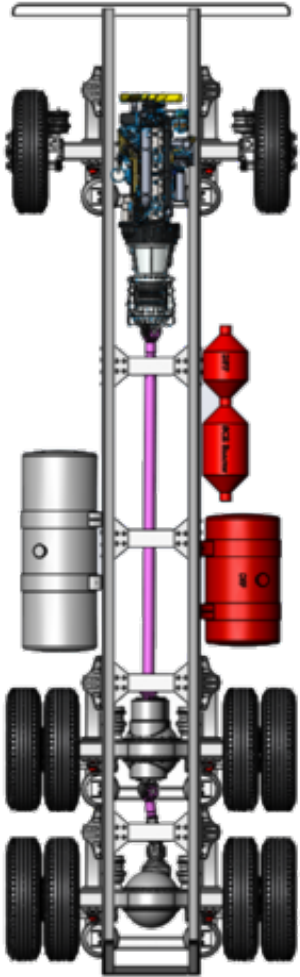




Space Required on HD Truck for 1,000 mile Range

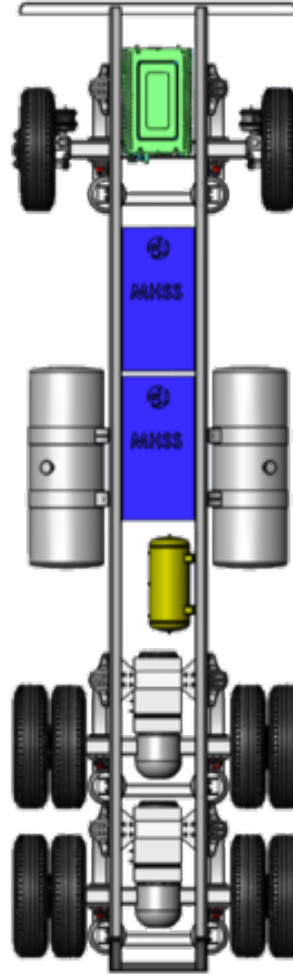
MHSS *Most Comparable* to Diesel Solution

Diesel Solution



- SCR (Catalytic Reactor) & DPF (Particulate Filter) already on truck
- Long driveshaft make space between rails unusable
- One 150 gallon side tank
- **143** gallons needed for 1,000 mi. range

e1 MHSS Solution



- Engine Bay and majority of area under cab available for 80 kW fuel cell system
- MHSS (X2) fits between rails where driveshaft previously took space
- Two 150 gallon side tanks
- **257** gallons needed for 1,000 mi. range
- Back of cab could also be used for MHSS

(Simulation)

Impractical to fit enough compressed H₂ tanks onboard a HD truck to store **101** kg of H₂ to achieve 1,000 mi. range



MHSS – Space Reduction

Specific Example

About 2x space reduction onboard heavy vehicle is achieved by using methanol mix plus e1 MHSS



	Range (km)	H ₂ (kg)	Storage, 35 Mpa (m ³)	Methanol Mix (m ³)	Methanol Mix + MHSS
Bus	500	32.5	3.5	0.4	2.8
Bus	700	45.5	5	0.5	3
Nikola One, Toyota/Kenworth	1,000	89.3	9.5	0.5	4



Fuel Cost Comparison

MHSS Provides the **Lowest** Total Cost of Fuel Per Mile

Fuel Costs (Dollars)	Diesel ¹		CNG ²		H ₂ Gas ³		MHSS ⁴	
Per Gallon ⁽⁵⁾	\$	3.15	\$	2.11	\$	14.08	\$	1.26
Per DGE	\$	3.15	\$	2.40	\$	15.99	\$	2.85
Per H ₂ kg Eq.	\$	2.76	\$	2.10	\$	13.99	\$	2.49
Per 1,000 Miles	\$	450	\$	363	\$	1,409	\$	324
Per Mile	\$	0.45	\$	0.36	\$	1.41	\$	0.32

(1) eia US Energy Information Administration, <https://www.eia.gov/petroleum/gasdiesel/>

(2) CNG Now, <http://www.cngnow.com/average-cng-prices/pages/default.aspx>

(3) California Fuel Cell Partnership, <https://cafcp.org/content/cost-refill>

(4) Methanex, <https://www.methanex.com/our-business/pricing>

(5) Diesel is DGE gallon, CNG is GGE gallon, H₂ is GGE gallon, MHSS is methanol gallon

MHSS & methanol
reduces the cost per mile
by > **25% vs Diesel**



e1 M-Series MHSS H₂

Key Advantages

1. Occupies smaller space on the vehicle compared to compressed H₂:

- Result is greater driving range between fueling

2. Very Low TCO:

- Very low CapEx and OpEx, produce H₂ for \$3 to \$4 per kg onboard the HD Truck

3. Reduced Emissions:

- No NOx | No SOx | No PM (Soot) | CO₂ emissions significantly reduced.
(zero net CO₂ if renewable methanol is used)

4. Scalable:

- Support 30 kW to 300 kW fuel cells per MHSS module

5. Simple / Familiar Feedstock Storage:

- No stored high-pressure H₂ required, improved safety

Extreme cold
weather operation
available with
methanol



Accelerates the Adoption of Fuel Cell HD Trucks



Take Away.....

.....Moving Forward

- Gaseous H₂ has significant limitations in regards to logistics, infrastructure, cost, and is **not** practical for HD transportation
- Liquid methanol is a low carbon fuel and provides high H₂ density, low-cost liquid logistics and storage, reduced safety risk versus compressed H₂, and **is practical** for HD transportation
- e1's MHSS **unlocks** the benefits of methanol and **solves the “H₂ Challenge”**
 - Stationary L-Series solution for HRS provides the lowest TCO for H₂ per kg at the point of use
 - Mobile M-Series solution for HD transportation supports extended range requirements, allows for typical vehicle missions, and significantly reduces the investment in HRS
- With renewable methanol and e1's MHSS products, you are driving towards a zero-emission sustainable future

Deploying e1's MHSS products will Accelerate
the Adoption of Fuel Cell Solutions



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Element 1
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The End

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